

May 19, 2000

Subject: Amendment No. 1 to Request For Proposal No. RCQ-0-30619, "Photovoltaic Technologies Beyond the Horizon@

THE PROPOSAL DUE DATE IS HEREBY EXTENDED TO A NEW DATE DUE OF JULY 24, 2000.

NOTE: Proposal specifications are as follows: Use single spaced pages. A page is defined as one side of an 8.5" x 11" sheet of paper. Use a font that is no smaller than 12 characters per inch or equivalent. Maintain at least 1-inch margins on all sides.

QUESTIONS/ANSWERS

The following information is provided in response to questions received regarding the subject solicitation:

1. **Question:** We are currently working on a proposal to DOE with a similar area of interest. Will NREL consider our proposal less favorably if we were to send in proposals to both agencies with a large overlap in the stated research areas?

Answer: The proposal will be evaluated using the evaluation criteria listed in the Request for Proposals. If you should receive a similar award, an assessment will be made at that time, and negotiations will ensure that there is no overlap.
2. **Question:** We will be submitting a joint proposal in which there will be co-principal investigators under each institution. Can these individuals be listed on the subcontract as co-principal investigators, or should they be listed as consultants?

Answer: Any personnel working on a sub-tier contract cannot be listed as a co-principal investigator on the subcontract. However, the subcontractor can list the personnel on their contract to their sub-tier.
3. **Question:** Can foreign collaborators charge their summer salary to the project? If so, what is the maximum amount allowed?

Answer: There are no limits to the amount proposed for labor. The firm fixed price invoice is paid based on deliverables. Time spent on the project is determined by the principal investigator.
4. **Question:** What is the maximum amount which foreign collaborators can charge for their travel and expenses to and within the U.S.? (Would this be a maximum % of the total project or a flat maximum amount).

Answer: Any foreign travel (that is travel to/from U.S. and a foreign destination) needs to be identified in the proposed costs and will be dealt with in the original subcontract award. DOE must give approval prior to travel and expenses must follow DOE guidelines. Travel within the U.S. is not considered foreign travel and should be limited to reasonable and necessary travel.

5. **Question:** The RFP states that no more than two (2) proposals may be submitted by any offeror. Does this mean a particular university can only submit two proposals to this program, or does it mean an individual can only submit two proposals?

Answer: No more than two (2) proposals may be submitted by any university, college or U.S. company. Should NREL receive more than two proposals from an institution, they will all be returned for the institution to identify any two that they wish to submit.

6. **Question:** Is it preferable for overseas universities to collaborate with a US university rather than submitting alone?

Answer: Proposals from foreign/overseas universities will be accepted and evaluated in accordance with the evaluation criteria.

7. **Question:** Can non-US universities/colleges apply with or without being connected to US partners?

Answer: Non-US universities/colleges may apply. Collaboration with US universities/colleges is encouraged, but not required.

8. **Question:** I am currently supported by an NREL subcontract. If I submit a proposal with one of my colleagues, will this new proposal be considered as an independent proposal without jeopardizing either my present subcontract, or fair equal consideration of the new proposal?

Answer: The new proposal will be evaluated only subject to the criteria stated in the RFP.

9. **Question:** Can Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL) act as a prime or as a sub-tier subcontractor of a program funded by this initiative?

Answer: No. PNNL, a DOE National Laboratory, cannot respond to NREL's solicitation as an independent respondent, lead respondent of a team, or team member. Government laboratories, other than DOE, (e.g. NIST, NASA) may be part of a proposing team, but not the prime offeror.

10. **Question:** Would tying this solicitation to a CRADA with NREL be considered desirable?

Answer: No. NREL cannot receive funding under the subcontract awards.

11. **Question:** Would long-term PV manufacturing programs be deemed appropriate for this program? Do hybrid technologies specifically include PV-solar thermal, and would PV-solar thermal be encouraged as a research effort?

Answer: No information can be provided on these subjects, other than what is stated in the RFP.

12. **Question:** Is there a percentage for cost sharing from the applicants?

Answer: NREL anticipates awarding firm fixed price subcontracts under this solicitation.

13. **Question:** How many submittals for this solicitation do you expect to receive, and how many awards are anticipated? What is the approximate award date for the program, and how likely is it that the full three year duration of this program would be supported?

Answer: These questions cannot be answered.

No other changes or alterations are made by virtue of this Amendment No. 1. Offerors are required to acknowledge receipt of this Amendment No. 1 with any proposal submitted in response to this solicitation.

Point of Contact: Liz Surek
Contract Administrator
303-384-7354 - phone
303-384-7329 - fax

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NO. RAX-7-17647

Offerors are required to acknowledge receipt of this Amendment No. 1 to Request For Proposal No. RCQ-0-30619. Please sign and return this acknowledgement form with your proposal to the attention of Liz Surek, National Renewable Energy Laboratory, 1617 Cole Boulevard, Mailstop #2713, Golden, CO 80401.

RECEIPT ACKNOWLEDGED:

COMPANY _____

NAME _____

TITLE _____

DATE _____